STAR WARS
OBI-WAN & ANAKIN
MARVEL
002
SOULE
CHECCHETTO
MOSSA

OBI-WAN AND ANAKIN

Part II

Young Anakin Skywalker is having doubts. He joined the peacekeeping Jedi Order as a boy but now, a young man of twelve, he has begun to doubt his path.

Anakin joined his master, Jedi Knight Obi-Wan Kenobi, on a mission to Carnelion IV in response to a call for Jedi assistance. Crash-landing on the planet, the pair found the ruins of an advanced civilization abandoned beneath a sickly cloud cover, but also more primitive survivors living above the clouds on mountain peaks and flying airships.

A battle between two airships ended with one plummeting groundward. Obi-Wan managed to save a pair of women from the crew of the downed ship before it crashed, but the women immediately pulled weapons on their saviors, claiming to have never heard of the Jedi....

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I WON'T SAY IT AGAIN. ARE YOU OPEN, OR CLOSED?
SPEAK NOW OR DIE.
NEITHER. WE TOLD YOU. WE'RE JEDI.
AND I TOLD YOU I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT IS.
MOTHER PRAN-- MAYBE WE SHOULD WAIT--
NO, KOLARA. WE SHOULDN'T.
THIS TURNED UGLY FAST.
BE CALM, ANAKIN.
THERE IS NO NEED FOR WEAPONS HERE.
THERE IS NO NEED FOR--

KRRACK!
KRRACK!
AHH!
KOLARA! GET TO COVER!
THE CLOSED--THOSE DEVILS--THEY STILL HAD AN AIRGUN LEFT.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO? WE CAN'T FIGHT THAT THING!
MAYBE THEY DIDN'T SEE US.
MAYBE THEY'LL JUST KILL THE OTHER TWO...THE JEDI... AND LEAVE.
YOU THINK WE'LL GET THAT LUCKY?

UNLIKELY.
YOU FOOLS! YOU'LL LEAD THEM RIGHT TO US!
WE JUST ARRIVED ON THIS PLANET. I FIND IT HARD TO BELIEVE WE'RE THEIR TARGETS.
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. THEY'RE CLOSED. THEY KILL EVERYTHING!
THEY WON'T JUST LEAVE? IS THERE ANY CHANCE AT ALL?
NOT UNTIL THEY'VE SEEN OUR CORPSES.
HM.
FSSSSH
HE MOVED SO FAST... WHERE DID HE GO?
UP.

DOES HE WANT TO DIE SO BADLY? THEY'LL SLAUGHTER HIM!
I DOUBT IT.
THAT IS MY MASTER, OBI-WAN KENOBI.
"THERE IS NO ONE BETTER."
SSSSK!

KWOOSH!
HA! LOOK AT HIM!
YOU'LL NEVER MAKE IT, YOU OPEN FOOL!
YES, HE WILL!

PULL ME UP!
I'M TRYING!
YOU IDIOT! WHY DID YOU BRING HIM UP? THAT'S GRECKER--ONE OF THE WORST OF THE CLOSED, AND THAT IS SAYING SOMETHING. ALL YOU HAD TO DO WAS LET HIM FALL.
I DON'T DO THAT.
I DO.
OUT OF THE WAY, BOY.
DROP THE BANGERS, PRAN! OR YOU AND YOUR LITTLE OPEN WITCH ARE DEAD!
NEVER, GRECKER. NEVER.
MASTER?
GO AHEAD, ANAKIN.

SHRRM!
SSK!
HNH.

KILL YOU!
GRAAH!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? STOP!
MOTHER PRAN!
WHSK!
THAT. IS. ENOUGH.

GRECKER, IS IT? MY NAME IS OBI-WAN KENOBI, AND THE YOUNG MAN WHO SO ABLY DISABLED YOUR FIREARMS IS MY APPRENTICE, ANAKIN SKYWALKER.
NOW, BOTH OF YOU. TELL ME. I FIND MYSELF EXTREMELY CURIOUS.
WHY ARE YOU SO FOCUSED ON MURDERING EACH OTHER?
"WHY"? "WHY"?
HAVE YOU BEEN DOWN THERE? THEY DESTROYED OUR ENTIRE WORLD! THEY BROUGHT UP THE MISTS, POISONED OUR PLANET WITH THE CELADON SEA.
HE LIES. THE CLOSED STARTED THE WAR, GENERATIONS BACK. WE ALL KNOW IT, NO MATTER WHAT THEY SAY.
THE OPEN ARE THE ONLY ONES PREVENTING THIS PLANET FROM FALLING INTO COMPLETE CHAOS.
COME, ANAKIN.
BUT...WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE. THEY'LL KILL EACH OTHER!
I HOPE THEY DO NOT. WE HAVE TAKEN THEIR WEAPONS. PERHAPS THAT WILL GIVE THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONSIDER THEIR ACTIONS.
WE CANNOT STAY WITH THEM FOREVER, AND WE HAVE OTHER PLACES TO BE. WE MUST PUT OUR ENERGY TOWARDS PROBLEMS WE CAN SOLVE.
OI, SKYGIFT. YOU KNOW YOU JUST KILLED US ALL, RIGHT?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? YOU SEEM VERY MUCH ALIVE.
YOU GAVE US TWO CHOICES-- FREEZE ON THIS MOUNTAINTOP, OR TRY TO CROSS THE CELADON SEA TO SAFETY *WITHOUT WEAPONS*.
WE'RE DEAD EITHER WAY.
HE'S RIGHT. WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO?
KOLARA! WHAT ARE YOU *DOING*, AGREEING WITH A *CLOSED?* YOU KNOW BETTER.
ALTHOUGH THIS ONE TIME...PERHAPS... HE SPEAKS THE TRUTH.
VERY WELL. WE WILL SEE YOU TO SAFETY.

IS IT POSSIBLE FOR THOSE AIRSHIPS TO BE REPAIRED? I SUSPECT IT WOULD MAKE OUR JOURNEY MUCH EASIER THAN TRAVELING OVERLAND.
SAFER, TOO. YOU DON'T TRAVEL ON THE SURFACE HERE UNLESS YOU HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO CHOICE.
BUT NO. IT'S NOT POSSIBLE.
IT COULD WORK. WE'VE GOT AN INTACT GONDOLA AND AN INTACT AIRBAG. I BET WE COULD USE ALL THE PARTS TOGETHER AND GET IT FLYING. I'M GOOD WITH THINGS LIKE THAT.
AN OPEN AIRBAG AND A CLOSED GONDOLA. OPEN AND CLOSED DO NOT MIX, BOY. NOT EVER. WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT WOULD BE AN ABOMINATION.
BUT YOU'D BE SAFE-- AND WE COULD GET WHERE WE'RE GOING THAT MUCH FASTER.
WHERE ARE YOU GOING? YOU MENTIONED SOMETHING ABOUT A DISTRESS CALL.
YES. SOMEONE ON THIS PLANET SENT OUT A CALL FOR JEDI HELP, USING SPECIAL FREQUENCIES ONLY KNOWN TO OUR ORDER.
WE HAVE TO FIND THEM. DO WHAT WE CAN.
A CALL... OFF-PLANET?
THAT SHOULDN'T BE POSSIBLE. WE LOST THE TECHNOLOGY TO DO THAT IN THE EARLY DAYS OF THE WAR. MANY, MANY GENERATIONS AGO.

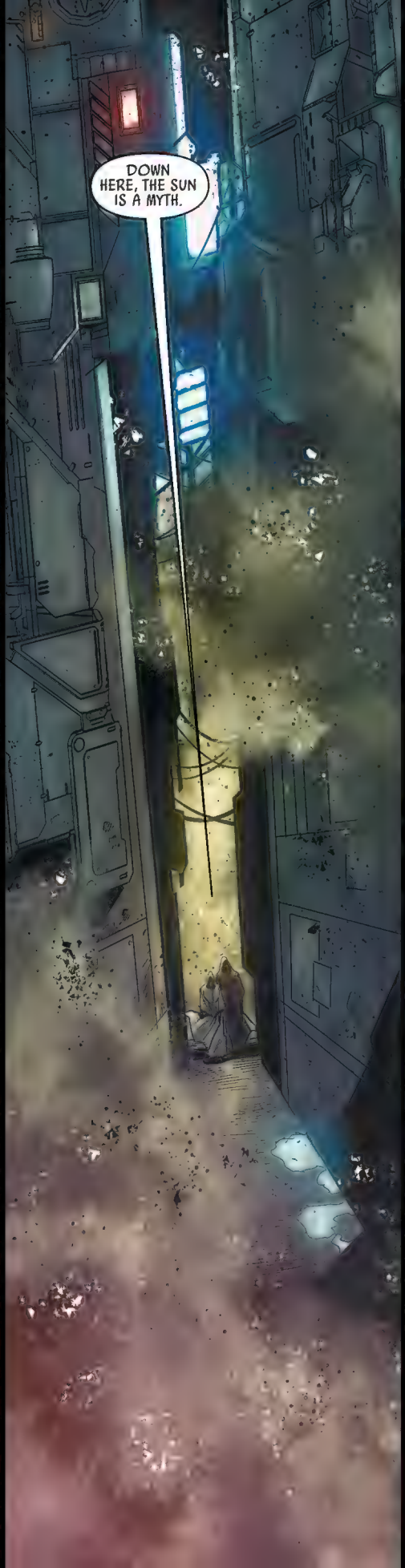
IF YOU THINK IT CAN BE DONE, ANAKIN, AND GRECKER AGREES, I'M WILLING TO TRY.
REALLY? BUT YOU ALWAYS SAY--
IT'S BETTER THAN WALKING, KOLARA. A LOT BETTER.
I DON'T LIKE IT. BUT I THINK I'D LIKE DYING A LOT LESS. LET'S DO IT.
BUT SPEAKING OF DYING, YOU SKYGIFTS MIGHT WANT TO PULL OUT THOSE FANCY SWORDS OF YOURS.
LOOKS LIKE THE CORPSE-LEECHES JUST NOTICED US.
THESE BEASTS ARE NEARLY MINDLESS, ANAKIN. I CAN FEEL IT.
THEY ARE MERELY FOLLOWING THEIR NATURE. THEY SHOULD NOT DIE SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY CROSSED OUR PATH. USE THE FORCE TO SEND THEM ON THEIR WAY.
I... I'LL TRY, MASTER.

OKAY, UH, FRIENDS... JUST...JUST...
FOCUS, ANAKIN! FEEL THE FORCE FLOWING THROUGH THEM. FEEL HOW IT CONNECTS WITH YOUR OWN LIFE ENERGY!
I'M... TRYING...
COME ON...
BAH!
SZZZK!

I'M--
--SORRY, MASTER.
I CAN'T FIND A WAY TO CALM IT. ALL I FEEL IS ITS RAGE. IT WANTS TO GET OUT. TO *CRUSH. GORE. KILL.*
Coruscant. The Jedi Temple. Before.
IT'S ALL RIGHT, ANAKIN. NOT ALL FORCE ABILITIES COME EASILY TO EVERYONE. THIS IS WHY WE STUDY. WHY WE LEARN.
SKILL IS THE CHILD OF *PATIENCE.*
I WILL. I'LL STAY HERE AS LONG AS IT TAKES.
I KNOW YOU WOULD, ANAKIN. YOU ARE INCREDIBLY DEDICATED.
BUT YOU WILL MASTER THIS SKILL ANOTHER DAY. RIGHT NOW, YOU HAVE AN APPOINTMENT, AND I THINK IT WOULD BE INADVISABLE FOR YOU TO ARRIVE LATE.
AN APPOINTMENT? WHO WANTS TO SEE *ME?*

AH, YOUNG SKYWALKER!
A TRUE PLEASURE INDEED.
THANK YOU FOR FINDING TIME TO COME SEE ME. I KNOW HOW DEMANDING YOUR JEDI TRAINING CAN BE.
OF-- OF COURSE, CHANCELLOR PALPATINE.
ANAKIN IS MAKING EXCEPTIONAL PROGRESS, CHANCELLOR. HE WILL MAKE AN EXCELLENT JEDI ONE DAY.
OH, I HAVE NO DOUBT. NO DOUBT WHATSOEVER.
WAS THERE... SOMETHING IN PARTICULAR YOU WANTED US TO DO FOR YOU? SOME MISSION?
NOT EXACTLY, MASTER KENOBI. I HAVE AN ERRAND TO RUN, OF SORTS, AND I THOUGHT ANAKIN MIGHT ACCOMPANY ME.
ANAKIN IS ADVANCED FOR HIS AGE, CHANCELLOR, BUT HE STILL HAS MUCH TO LEARN. PERHAPS I COULD JOIN YOU INSTEAD? IN A REAL SENSE, THE JEDI ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR SAFETY, AND--
NONSENSE. I AM VERY CAPABLE OF HANDLING MYSELF, AND IN ANY CASE, THERE WILL BE NO DANGER.
DON'T WORRY. I'LL HAVE HIM BACK AT THE TEMPLE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT. SAFE AND SOUND. I REALIZE HE NEEDS TO STUDY.
AS YOU SAID, MASTER KENOBI...
...HE STILL HAS MUCH TO LEARN.

Coruscant.
Sub-Surface
Level 2685.
WHY ARE WE HERE, CHANCELLOR? I'VE ALWAYS HEARD IT ISN'T *SAFE* THIS FAR DOWN.
AH...YOU HAVE *HEARD*. BUT HAVE YOU EVER *BEEN* THIS FAR DOWN, ANAKIN?
NO...I WOULD IF I COULD, I LIKE TO EXPLORE, TO SEE NEW PLACES-- BUT PADAWANS AREN'T ALLOWED OUT OF THE TEMPLE UNSUPERVISED VERY OFTEN.
OF COURSE. WELL, I VISIT THE LOWER LEVELS ALL THE TIME. I FEEL THAT IT IS MY DUTY.
AS RARE AS IT IS FOR PADAWANS TO COME DOWN HERE... I BELIEVE IT IS EVEN *MORE* UNUSUAL FOR ONE OF *THESE* PEOPLE TO MAKE IT TO THE SURFACE.
DO YOU KNOW THE RAREST RESOURCE ON CORUSCANT, MY BOY?
I... I'M NOT SURE.
SKY.


DOWN HERE, THE SUN IS A MYTH.

MY PREDECESSOR, THE HAPLESS VALORUM, WAS HAPPY TO PRETEND THESE DEPTHS DID NOT EXIST. BUT I CANNOT.
IT IS THE DARKNESS THAT MOST REQUIRES THE LIGHT.

WHEN MY DUTIES PERMIT, I COME TO PLACES LIKE THIS.
I DISGUISE MYSELF, JUST AS WE HAVE DONE TODAY. AND THEN, ANONYMOUSLY...

Club Kasakar.
...I TRY TO DO SOME GOOD.

Now.
YOU SAW IT, DIDN'T YOU?
I DID, MASTER.
THEY CHANGED THEIR MINDS ABOUT HELPING US THE MOMENT WE TOLD THEM WHY WE'RE HERE.
YES, DESPITE THE FACT THAT I HAVE RARELY SEEN TWO PEOPLE MORE DEVOTED TO HATING EACH OTHER THAN GRECKER AND MOTHER PRAN.
WE MUST HOPE THAT THIS MOMENTARY PEACE, FOR WHATEVER REASON THEY HAVE CHOSEN IT, WILL BREED SOME DEGREE OF UNDERSTANDING.
THEY'RE JUST LIKE US.
I DON'T SEE THAT AT ALL, ANAKIN. YOU AND I MAY HAVE... *AGGRESSIVE DISCUSSIONS* FROM TIME TO TIME, BUT WE ARE MASTER AND STUDENT. IT'S NATURAL.
NO, MASTER. *US*. THE JEDI AND THE SITH.
WE WILL REMAIN WATCHFUL, AND TRUST IN THE FORCE.
BUT FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE ARRIVING ON THIS PLANET, ANAKIN...

"...I BELIEVE WE ARE SAFE."
To be continued!

OBI-WAN & ANAKIN

NEXT ISSUE:

A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away is a lot easier to get to than you think – and we want to hear from you! Write us at StarWars@Marvel.com if you want to make it onto a future letters page. Don't forget to mark the letter "OK TO PRINT."